

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 7

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, Idaho ranks 49th out of the 50 states for physicians in patient care per 100,000 population; and

WHEREAS, 27 of Idaho's 44 counties have less than one physician in patient care per 1,000 population; and

WHEREAS, approximately 31% of Idaho's primary care physicians are 55 or older; and

WHEREAS, Idaho ranks 47th out of the 50 states for medical school seats per 100,000 population; and

WHEREAS, Idaho residents who make application to medical school regularly exceed national averages for Medical College Admissions Test scores and GPA; and

WHEREAS, of 156 Idaho residents who applied to medical school in 2008, only 58 (or 37%) matriculated; and

WHEREAS, Idaho is the largest state in the nation without a medical school, and only one of six states in the nation that does not have an allopathic medical school; and

WHEREAS, an independent national study has shown that on average for every dollar directly spent by medical schools and teaching hospitals, the indirect economic impact is multiplied by a factor of 1.3 for a total impact of \$2.30; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Family Physicians estimates that each family physician in Idaho has an economic impact of \$812,189 per year; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 Legislative Council Interim Committee on Medical Education recommended, inter alia, the development of an Idaho-based four-year medical education program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that federal funding be identified and made available for the delivery of the doctor of medicine (MD) degree in the state of Idaho.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.